

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT**  
**ROUTING SLIP**

TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		X		
2	DDCI		X		
3	EXDIR		X		
4	D/ICS				
5	DDI		X		
6	DDA				
7	DDO		X		
8	DDS&T				
9	Chm/NIC				
10	GC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/Pers				
14	D/OLL				
15	D/PAO				
16	SA/IA				
17	AO/DCI				
18	C/IPD/OIS				
19	C/EUR	X	Advance copy sent		
20	NIO/CT	X	Advance copy sent		
21	VC/NIC		X		
22					
SUSPENSE		Date			

Remarks

3637 (10-81)

D/Executive Secretary

22 May 84

Date

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Executive Registry

84 - 2266

22 May 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, European Division, DO  
National Intelligence Officer for Counterterrorism

FROM: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Terrorism

I want to be thoroughly up to date on the various terrorist organizations and their various activities in Europe for my visit there. I would like to see the material a day or so before we leave. I am particularly interested in aircraft threats and concerns about leaks on terrorist reporting.

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William J. Casey

*el gave DD1/OG1/TA13 a heads-up on this at 1815 hours 21 May 84.*  
*dw.*

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22 MAY 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: National Intelligence Office for Counterterrorism

FROM:

Chief, European Division  
Directorate of Operations

Director of Global Issues  
Directorate of Intelligence

SUBJECT: Terrorist Groups and Activities in Europe

1. Over one third of all international terrorist attacks in 1983 and the first half of 1984 occurred in Western Europe. The greatest number of incidents occurred in France, but with the exception of Norway, Sweden, and Finland, every nation in Western Europe has experienced recent terrorist activity on its territory. Most international terrorism by indigenous West European groups is leftist, anarchistic or separatist in its origins, and in many instances it is conducted to demonstrate opposition to US and NATO policies. Although the number and intensity of terrorist incidents in Italy and West Germany declined as a result of counterterrorist successes in 1982, recent developments indicate a gradual resurgence of indigenous terrorist capabilities in those countries. Perhaps of even greater importance is the use of Western Europe as a staging ground and focal point for much of the terrorist activity undertaken by Middle Eastern groups and nations. Athens probably is the most dangerous center of such activity currently.

2. We consider the following groups and nations to be the most dangerous terrorist actors in Western Europe:

- o Iran has agents in Western Europe capable of launching terrorist operations at any time. The recent seizure of Iranian facilities in several West European nations by anti-Khomeini exiles makes the dissident community the most likely target of Iranian state agents, but US and possibly French and British interests could be attacked if the crisis in the Persian Gulf escalates.
- o Libyan leader Qadhafi has blamed the UK and the US among others for the recent commando raid on his Tripoli headquarters by Libyan dissidents.

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SUBJECT: Terrorist Groups and Activities in Europe

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- o Abu Nidal's Black June Organization has cells in Turkey, West Germany, France, Spain, and probably elsewhere in Europe, and recently assassinated one of its own members in Cyprus. It has attacked moderate PLO and Arab officials as well as Israeli and Jewish targets for the past ten years and will continue to do so. The group is headquartered in Syria, but may be receiving money from Iran and Libya and could be influenced by those states to target US or Western interests.
  - o LARF, the Lebanese Armed Revolutionary Faction, has killed, or attempted to kill, at least five US officials and two Israeli diplomats in France since 1981. Most recently--in March 1984--it attempted to assassinate the US Consul General in Strasbourg. The identity and size  The group is likely to strike again.
  - o PLO groups continue to plan and stage attacks into Israel and the occupied territories. To date, they have adhered to Arafat's ban on terrorism outside these areas, but the more radical, anti-Arafat groups such as the PFLP-GC, PFLP and DFLP might break ranks and operate in Europe if Arafat's position within the PLO continues to weaken.
  - o The leftist Armenian terrorist group ASALA appears to have switched its focus to Turkish diplomats in the Middle East, especially in Iran. It probably is not a threat to US interests in Western Europe.
  - o There are recent indications that the Red Army Faction (RAF) in West Germany is rebuilding its organization. The RAF has been violently opposed to the US military presence, and we suspect it is likely to remain so.
  - o The Marxist 17 November Organization in Greece has claimed responsibility for several attacks against Americans in Athens, most recently for the attempted murder in April of an NCO assigned to JUSMAGG. It has pledged in recent communiques to continue to attack Americans. We do not know the number or identity of group members.

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## SUBJECT: Terrorist Groups and Activities in Europe

- o The Marxist Red Brigades (BR) in Italy is continuing to expand, and a number of its components are operational. It claimed responsibility for the mid-February assassination of Leamon Hunt in Rome. Recent BR communiques reflect its opposition to Italian participation in NATO, and to the worldwide influence of Western "imperialism." [REDACTED]
- o Recent terrorist attacks in Spain may mark the resurgence of the leftist organization GRAPO, despite continuing efforts by Spanish police to eliminate it. GRAPO remains a potential threat to the Spanish Government and could also become a threat to US military facilities or personnel there. [REDACTED]
- o French authorities banned the leftist anarchist organization Action Directe in 1982, and its activities were subsequently curtailed. There are some signs, however, that the group has been reactivated, and that it has links to other West European--particularly Italian--terrorists. Last fall the group threatened to attack US interests, but so far an attack has not materialized. [REDACTED]

Threat to Aircraft in Western Europe

3. As you are aware, we have been cooperating [REDACTED] in an attempt to neutralize the efforts of the 15 May Organization to place a bomb on an El Al or other aircraft. The first such attempt occurred in Athens late last year. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The FAA has passed a general warning to US carriers, and various other international carriers have become aware of the potential danger to commercial airliners operating out of Western Europe. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Operations by this Iraqi-backed group are potentially dangerous for US and other West European aircraft because stringent security precautions around El Al aircraft could encourage the group to attempt to place a bomb on a less well-guarded carrier. [REDACTED]

4. There have been a number of leaks to the media about the group, [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT: Terrorist Groups and Activities in Europe

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The Problem of Leaks

5. Recent leaks of terrorist reporting have caused serious damage to our counterterrorist effort. The numerous press reports concerning the interception of Iranian communications led Tehran to initiate a courier service [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Libya responded in similar fashion to the more recent disclosure that its enciphered communications to Western Europe were being read. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Other terrorist actors probably have been made more cautious in their security procedures as well. While the leaks on terrorism to date have not similarly led to the loss of [REDACTED] we believe the fear of damaging leaks almost certainly prevents some sources from sharing information fully with the United States. [REDACTED]

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## ADDENDUM

According to recent reporting in the Italian press, the state prosecutor has recommended that Sergey Antonov--along with two other Bulgarians and four Turks--stand trial for alleged complicity in the attack on the Pope. Reportedly the prosecutor decided there was sufficient evidence to bring Antonov and his presumed accomplices to trial, citing holes in Antonov's alibis during the three days just before and after the attack. [REDACTED]

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The prosecutor's recommendation has freed Investigating Magistrate Martella to file his brief with the court. The next decision--whether to proceed with a trial--now rests with Judge Martella.

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[REDACTED] . We continue to believe, however, that an indictment but there probably is insufficient evidence to obtain a conviction. [REDACTED]

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